

December 16, 2009

Dear Principal,

Thank you for your participation in the stakeholder surveys conducted in May. As you know, the feedback received from the staff, parent and student surveys will assist us in achieving school improvement goals.

**About the surveys**

We instituted school level surveys that:

- measured satisfaction levels with district services and your school;
- provided feedback on school climate and safety;
- identified needs so your school can have the support needed to raise student achievement levels;
- will guide DCPS strategic plans and enable us to measure progress moving forward.

Westat, an independent research firm that has conducted similar research projects throughout the country helped design, administer, analyze and summarize the results. Westat has provided us with school level summaries that protect respondents' confidentiality.

**Action Steps for Principals**

Please review your summary report and full data report. Please provide your staff with a copy of the summary report and bring your staff together to discuss the results, and coordinate with your WTU representatives to plan these events. Be sure to obtain your staff's feedback on strategies for building on your school's strengths and address any challenges with staff. A guide is attached to assist you in facilitating these discussions.

**Where and When Your Results Will be Public**

Your school's summary reports will be posted on the DCPS webpage on **December 18<sup>th</sup>** so please make sure that you share your results with your staff by January 15<sup>th</sup>. Due to confidentiality reasons, the more detailed reports will not be posted.

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### Schools With High Response Rates

Congratulations to the following schools who are receiving awards for high response rates. Each will be awarded \$500 for the school.

\$500 for each category	Student Survey	Parent Survey	Staff Survey
<b>Elementary/K-8</b>	Hamilton Center (100%)	Ludlow-Taylor (61%)	Ross ES (100%) Multiple schools obtained 100%*
<b>Middle</b>	Stuart Hobson MS (94%)	Eliot-Hine (40%)	Hart MS (96%)
<b>High School/Alternative</b>	Youth Engagement Academy (90%)	School Without Walls (18%)	Ellington School of the Arts (100%) Multiple schools obtained 100%**

\*Elementary/K-8 schools that obtained a 100% staff response rate include: Aiton, Beers, Davis, Ferebee-Hope, Garrison, HD Cooke, Hearst, Houston, Jackie Robinson Ctr, Kenilworth, Kimball, Leckie, Ludlow-Taylor, Orr, River Terrace, Ross, Sharpe Health, Simon, and West. Westat randomly selected Ross among these schools for the \$500 award.

\*\*High School/Alternative schools that obtained 100% response rates include: CHOICE Academy, Correctional Detention Facility, Ellington School of the Arts, HD Woodson, Incarcerated Youth Program, Phelps, Youth Engagement Academy and Youth Services Center. Westat randomly selected Ellington School of the Arts among these schools for the \$500 award.

I will also be joining **Simon Elementary School** who was randomly selected among schools who obtained a 100% staff response rate for a free staff lunch.

Sincerely,



Michelle Rhee